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MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH,

FOR THE

GEORGIA DISTRICT,

1872.

EMORY UNIVERSITY



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ATLANTA, GEORGIA:
THE CONSTITUTION BOOK AND JOB PRINT.
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PROCEEDINGS.

DEKALB COUNTY, GA.,
MORRIS' CHURCH, Friday, November 1, 1872.

The Forty-Second Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, Georgia District, convened pursuant to adjournment.

Conference was opened with religious services by the President, Rev. F. H. M. Henderson.

Rev. G. W. Morris was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

Ministers Present—F. H. M. Henderson, J. Thurman, W. B. Armstrong, S. Moore, S. H. Griffin, H. C. Andrews, O. Reeves, F. M. Allen, G. W. Morris, J. O. A. Radford, T. J. Biggers, J. W. Caldwell, B. B. Ransom, F. Weldon, W. Shadrick, G. Harlan, I. G. Mitchell, T. T. Key, J. B. Morris, B. P. Rodgers, E. Morris, J. A. Farabee, T. E. Nash.

A committee on lay credentials was appointed, consisting of Revs. W. B. Armstrong, O. Reeves and H. G. Andrews, who reported that the following delegates were elected and entitled to seats in this body :

Coweta Circuit—B. F. Kennedy, W. P. Bryant, J. C. Sewell.

DeKalb Circuit—D. S. Jones, J. A. Morris, L. Simpson, G. Key, H. Crowley.

Gordon Circuit—R. M. Aycock, W. S. Smith.

Randolph Circuit—U. Phillips, W. C. Watkins.

Henry Circuit—E. Phillips.

Palmetto Circuit.—J. Fullerton, J. Barge, U. O. McConnel.

Laurel Branch Circuit—J. Herrington.

McDuffie Circuit—A. E. Shields.

Clayton Circuit—F. M. Ellis.

Walton Circuit—C. L. Bowie.

Van Wert Circuit—J. M. Biggers, B. T. McGarity.

Carroll Circuit—D. J. Moore.

Spalding Circuit—T. J. Stephens.

The Rules of Order of last Conference were read and adopted for the government of this Conference.

Rev. S. C. Masters joined the Conference and took his seat in the body.

Moved and adopted that the order of business laid down in the Discipline be the order of business of this body.

Conference took a recess until 1 p. m., to hear the introductory sermon, which was preached by the President.

1 O'CLOCK P. M.

Conference reassembled, and the following committees were appointed :

On Pulpit Services—G. W. Morris, E. Morris, A. J. Cook and G. Key.

On Journals—F. M. Allen, J. A. Morris, R. M. Aycock.

On Orders and Itineracy—G. Harlan, J. O. A. Radford, I. G. Mitchell, M. Phillips and J. M. Biggers.

On Finance—T. T. Key, J. Herrington, J. C. Sewell, E. A. Shields and L. Simpson.

On Appeals—S. H. Griffin, R. C. Kensey and J. M. Biggers.

On Boundaries—J. Thurman, S. C. Masters, J. G. Caldwell, W. P. Bryant and W. E. Smith.

On Obituaries—J. Thurman, J. M. McGarity and D. S. Jones.

Conference Steward—E. Morris.

Assistant Stewards—T. T. Key, D. S. Jones, U. C. McConnel and M. Phillips.

The examination of ministerial characters was taken up, and the characters of the following brethren passed : F. H. M. Henderson, J. Thurman, A. Turner, S. Moore, S. H. Griffin, H. G. Andrews, W. B. Armstrong, O. Reeves, F. M. Allen, G. W. Morris, J. O. A. Radford, T. J. Biggers, J. G. Caldwell, B. B. Ransom, G. P. Sutherland, G. W. Bryant, F. Weldon, D. C. Stokes, N. Belcher, A. D. McKinsey.

Moved, by E. Morris, that the election of President, Secretary and Stationing Committee take place on Saturday, at 10 o'clock A. M. Adopted.

Conference now adjourned, with prayer by T. J. Biggers, to meet Saturday, at 9 A. M.

SATURDAY—9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Conference met, and was opened with reading and prayer by Rev. H. G. Andrews.

On motion, a Committee on Literature, consisting of J. O. A. Radford, G. Harlan, J. G. Caldwell, E. A. Shields and John A. Morris, was appointed.

The examination of ministerial characters resumed. The character of bro. R. S. McGarity passed. Bro. W. S. Johnson not being present, not heard from, it was moved and adopted to pass his character, and for the President to write him an admonitory letter.

J. A. Farabee joined the Conference and took his seat in the body.

The hour of 10 o'clock having arrived, the Conference proceeded to the election of President, Secretary and Stationing Committee, with the following result:

President—F. H. M. Henderson.

Secretary—John A. Morris.

Assistant Secretary—J. G. Caldwell.

Stationing Committee—I. G. Mitchell, S. C. Masters, ministers; U. Phillips, J. Fullerton, W. E. Smith, laymen.

Conference took a recess, to attend preaching, until 1 P. M.

1 O'CLOCK P. M.

Conference reassembled and resumed the examination of ministerial characters, and the characters of the following brethren passed: E. D. Corley, A. W. Mitchell, J. M. Langford, J. M. Miller, W. Shadrick, G. Harlan, I. G. Mitchell, T. T. Key, J. B. Morris, B. P. Rodgers, E. Morris, S. C. Masters, T. Adams, T. E. Nash and C. Webb.

The report of the Committee on Journals was read and adopted:

We, the Committee on Journals, have carefully examined the journals, and find them neatly and correctly kept, with no unfinished business.

Respectfully submitted.

F. M. ALLEN, Chairman.

It was moved and adopted that the ministers state their relation to the Conference, for the next year, and the ministers responded.

The Committee on Orders and Itineracy made the following report, which was adopted:

We have examined brothers W. J. Causey, J. M. McGarity, J. M. Biggers and F. M. Brooks, on Gifts, Graces and Acquirements, and recommend that they be placed under the stationing authority of Conference, and also for Deacon's orders. We also recommend that W. J. Griffin and R. M. Aycock be placed under the stationing authority, and also, that a committee be appointed to examine F. H. Thacker and Martin Hatcher for Deacon's orders.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. HARLAN, Chairman.

Leave of absence for the remainder of the session was granted to brothers O. Reeves, W. E. Smith, R. M. Aycock, C. L. Bowie, G. Key.

Moved and adopted, that Conference now resolve itself into the Missionary Society.

SUNDAY—10½ O'CLOCK A. M.

Rev. F. H. M. Henderson preached the Ordination Sermon, from St. John, 1st chapter, 38th verse, at the conclusion of which the Presbytery, composed of Rev. F. H. M. Henderson, Rev. G. Harlan and Rev. S. C. Masters, proceeded to ordain brothers W. J. Causey, J. M. McGarity, J. M. Biggers and F. M. Brooks to Deacon's orders, with usual ceremony.

A public collection, to defray the incidental expenses of the Conference, was attended to by the Conference Steward and Assistants. Services closed for A. M.

1½ O'CLOCK P. M.

Rev. J. Thurman and Rev. F. H. M. Henderson officiated in preaching the funeral of S. E. Smith, of Bowdon.

6½ O'CLOCK P. M.

Sermon by Rev. S. H. Griffin, after which Rev. J. O. A. Radford, assisted by brothers I. G. Mitchell, S. H. Griffin, F. H. M. Henderson and J. G. Caldwell proceeded to administer the Sacrament. Services closed.

MONDAY—11 O'CLOCK A. M.

The business of the Missionary Society being finished, the business of the Conference was again resumed.

The Committee on Boundaries reported as follows:

Carroll Circuit—No change.

Coweta Circuit—No change.

Palmetto Circuit—No change—Key Chapel added.

Henry Circuit—No change—Asbury Chapel, Mount Carmel and Mount Pleasant added.

Spalding Circuit—No change.

Randolph Circuit—No change.

Walton Circuit—No change.

Gordon Circuit—No change.

Walker Circuit—No change—Arbor, Shiloh, Tryan added.

DeKalb Circuit—No change.

Irwin Circuit—No change.

Laurel Branch Mission—No change—Oak Grove Chapel added.

Van Wert Circuit—No change.

McDuffie Circuit—No change.

We, the Committee, recommend that this Conference divide the Georgia District into small missionary fields, as follows:

First Field—Carroll Circuit, Coweta Circuit, Van Wert Circuit, Palmetto Circuit and surrounding country.

Second Field—Henry Circuit, DeKalb Circuit, Spalding Circuit, and surrounding country.

Third Field—Gordon Circuit, Walker Circuit, and surrounding country.

Fourth Field—Walton Circuit, McDuffie Circuit, and surrounding country.

Fifth Field—Randolph Circuit, and surrounding country.

Sixth Field—Irwin Circuit, Laurel Branch Circuit, and surrounding country.

The report of the Committee on Literature was read and laid on the table for the remainder of the session.

The report of the Committee on Statistics was read and adopted, but it was either not handed in or misplaced from the Secretary's desk; hence it does not appear in the minutes.

The following report of the Stationing Committee was read and adopted:

Randolph Circuit—W. J. Causey, superintendent.

McDuffie Circuit—Superintendent to be supplied.

Walton Circuit—J. A. McGarity, superintendent.

DeKalb Circuit—Superintendent to be supplied; A. W. Mitchell, assistant.

Carroll Circuit—J. G. Caldwell, superintendent; A. Turner, J. R. Turner, and F. M. Brooks, assistants.

Coweta Circuit—S. Moore, superintendent; W. G. Bryant, assistant.

Van Wert Circuit—Superintendent to be supplied; T. J. Biggers and John Biggers, assistants.

Palmetto Circuit—F. Weldon, superintendent; D. C. Stokes and W. Shadrick, assistants.

Spalding Circuit—Superintendent to be supplied; W. J. Griffin, E. D. Cauley and T. Adams, assistants.

Henry Circuit—Superintendent to be supplied; T. E. Nash, A. D. McKensey, N. Belcher and H. G. Andrews, assistants.

Gordon Circuit—W. S. Johnson, superintendent; O. Reeves and R. M. Aycock, assistants.

Walker Circuit—G. Harlan, superintendent; ——— Thacker, assistant.

Irwin Circuit—C. Webb, superintendent.

Laurel Branch Circuit—J. M. Langford, superintendent; J. N. Miller, assistant.

Taylor's Ridge Circuit—F. M. Allen, superintendent.

E. Morris, Superintendent Sabbath School, DeKalb county.

Missionaries—S. C. Masters, I. G. Mitchell, T. T. Key, J. Thurman, G. P. Sutherland and S. H. Griffin.

In Hands of President—W. B. Armstrong, J. A. Farabee, R. S. McGarity, J. O. A. Radford and G. W. Morris.

Located—J. B. Morris and B. P. Rodgers.

Transferred—B. B. Ransom.

Dropped—James Prophet.

Deceased—S. E. Smith.

I. G. MITCHELL, Chairman.

The report of the Conference's Steward was read and adopted:

The amount received by public collection on Sunday was \$53.40.

E. MORRIS, Conf. Steward.

The report of the Finance Committee was read and adopted.

In view of the great importance of an efficient ministry within the borders of the Georgia District, and in order that our ministers may be sustained while preaching the gospel, we recommend: That at the first quarterly Conference, a committee be appointed, composed of members from all the churches, as far as practicable, to apportion the amount necessary for the support of the pastor, to the churches of the circuit, according to their ability to pay; and that each church divide its apportioned amount among its members.

T. T. KEY, Chairman.

OBITUARY.

WHEREAS, It pleased God on the 7th February, 1872, to remove our beloved brother, S. E. Smith, from his labors on earth to his rewards in Heaven; therefore,

Resolved, That we bow with meek reverence to the divine Providence, which thus afflicted us.

Resolved 2d, That in the death of Brother Smith, we mourn the loss of a model gentleman, a devout Christian, and an able minister.

Resolved 3d, That this Conference show its high appreciation of Brother Smith by inserting these resolutions in its minutes.

JOHN THURMAN, Chairman.

Brother S. H. Griffin offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due and hereby tendered to friends and brethren of this community for the kind and hospitable manner they have entertained this body.

Publishing Committee—G. W. Morris and J. A. Morris.

Brother I. G. Mitchell was appointed a committee of one to look after the deserted church property.

Standing District Committee—S. C. Masters, J. B. Morris, T. T. Key, U. Phillips and G. Key.

Moved and adopted, that the Conference pay the secretary \$10.00 for his services, and the rest of the funds be applied to the publication of the minutes.

The next Annual Conference will be held at Popular Springs, Clayton county, commencing on Thursday, 10 A. M., before second Sunday in November, 1873. Delegates will all come to East Point.

Conference adjourned with prayer by Bro. J. Thurman.

SATURDAY—3 O'CLOCK P. M.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Brother C. L. Bowie, treasurer of Missionary Society, made the following report, which was received :

At the Spring term of Newton Superior Court, I was made a party in the case of John Webb vs. John Weaver, in behalf of the M. P. M. S. of the Georgia District. At the Fall term of said court, by the advice of my attorney, after several unsuccessful efforts to compromise at a less loss to the society, I succeeded in compromising the case at fifty cents in the dollar, minus the interest. After paying the lawyer's fee, \$40.00, there is in the treasury as a perpetual fund \$317.10, the interest of which can only be used for missionary purposes. Funds on hand, subject to draft, \$16.00, which is now paid over to Dr. G. Harlan, for missionary services.

C. L. BOWIE, Treasurer of Miss. S.

REPORT OF DR. G. HARLAN, TRAVELING MISSIONARY.

Carroll Circuit.....	\$22 00
Spalding ".....	5 00
W. P. Bryant.....	5 00
Order on A. W. Mitchell.....	95 50
McDuffie Circuit.....	6 50
Henry ".....	5 00
Van Wert ".....	3 50
DeKalb ".....	15 00
Walker ".....	20 00
Gordon ".....	4 00
W. Shadrick.....	5 00

Amount.....\$186 50

Missionary adjourned until 9 A. M. Monday.

MONDAY—9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Missionary Society was opened with prayer by Bro. I. G. Mitchell.

Minutes of Saturday were read, considered and confirmed.

A resolution offered by Bro. C. L. Bowie was read and, as amended, was adopted :

WHEREAS, The Ogletree donation to the M. P. M. S., Georgia District, was given under the restriction that it was to be a permanent fund in the society, and the interest only was to be used for missionary purposes; and

WHEREAS, The said fund has been involved in law, and lawyers' fees have been paid out of said fund; and

WHEREAS, The said fund has been reduced one-half by a compromise in court; therefore,

Resolved, That the amount (\$40) paid in feeing lawyers be replaced by this society.

Resolved 2d, That the amount (\$357.14) lost by the compromise in court be replaced by annual installments of five dollars from each circuit and station, until the said amount be replaced to do the work of him, who so generously made the Christian donation to help hold up the missionary cause while he himself is no more.

Brother C. L. Bowie was re-elected treasurer of the Missionary Society.

A list of contributors to make up the \$40 for the above fund:

E. Morris.....	\$1 00	H. Crowley.....	\$1 00
S. H. Griffin.....	1 00	T. Stephens.....	1 00
F. H. M. Henderson	1 00	G. Key.....	6 00
J. Thurman.....	1 00	F. Weldon.....	1 00
J. W. Beaty.....	1 00	L. Simpson.....	1 00
W. B. Armstrong..	1 00	J. W. Wallace.....	1 00
G. Harlan.....	1 00	M. Phillips.....	1 00
W. P. Bryant.....	1 00	N. O. McConnel....	1 00
W. J. Causey.....	1 00	J. M. Biggers.....	1 00
J. A. Farabee.....	1 00	T. J. Biggers.....	1 00
G. W. Morris.....	1 00	T. E. Nash.....	2 00
F. M. Allen.....	1 00	B. T. McGarity....	1 00
W. Shadrick.....	1 00	John Weaver.....	1 10
T. T. Key.....	1 00	J. Barge.....	1 00
E. A. Shields.....	1 00	C. L. Bowie.....	1 00
H. G. Andrews.....	1 00	L. Sturges.....	1 00
J. G. Caldwell.....	1 00	A. J. Cook.....	1 00

Moved and adopted that the Constitution of the M. S. be published in the minutes.

Executive Committee of M. S.—S. C. Masters, W. B. Armstrong, G. W. Morris, G. Key, A. J. Cook and A. W. Mitchell.

On motion, all who have subscribed to the M. S. are missionary stewards. Adopted.

On the reimbursement of the Ogletree fund the committee reported as follows:

DeKalb Circuit...	\$44 00	Spaulding Circuit..	\$25 00
Carroll "	43 00	Henry "	35 00
Randolph "	40 00	Walton "	40 00
Coweta "	30 00	Palmetto "	30 00
Gordon "	15 00	Walker "	10 00
Laurel Branch....	15 00	Van Wert "	20 00
McDuffie Circuit..	10 00		

I. G. MITCHELL, Chairman.

A list of contributors to the Missionary:

John Thurman....	\$50 00	J. A. Farabee.....	\$10 00
E. Morris.....	50 00	J. C. Sewell.....	10 00
I. G. Mitchell.....	50 00	J. A. McGarity....	10 00
W. B. Armstrong..	25 00	G. Harlan.....	10 00
W. P. Bryant.....	20 00	G. Key	10 00
T. T. Key.....	10 00	N. O. McConnell..	10 00
B. T. McGarity....	10 00	L. Simpson.....	5 00
F. M. Allen.....	10 00	J. M. Biggers	5 00
J. W. Wallace....	5 00	B. F. Kennedy.....	5 00

Missionary Society adjourned.

F. H. M. HENDERSON, President,
Bowdon, Ga.

JOHN A. MORRIS, Secretary,
Atlanta, Ga. P. O. Box 525.

Publishing Committee—J. A. Morris and G. W. Morris.

CONSTITUTION OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known as the Missionary Society of the Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, of the Georgia District.

ARTICLE 2. The object of this Association shall be to raise funds for the support of missionaries, to travel in the bounds of said district.

ARTICLE 3. Any person contributing one dollar shall be a member of this Society, so long as they may contribute that amount annually.

ARTICLE 4. The officers of said Society shall be a President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by the Society.

ARTICLE 5. This Society shall meet annually at the time and place of holding the Annual Conference. The members of the Conference shall transact the business of the Association.

ARTICLE 6. Every minister shall present the object of this Association whenever practicable, and solicit contributions to carry out its object, and pay over the same to the treasurer.

ARTICLE 7. The funds contributed shall be employed in compensating such missionaries and preachers as shall be employed by the Society, or its authorities.

ARTICLE 8. The selection and appointment of Missionaries for the Association shall be made by the executive committee.

ARTICLE 9. There shall be an executive committee consisting of six members, three ministers and three laymen, appointed by the Association, one of whom shall be president for the time being, whose duty it shall be to employ missionaries to travel in the bounds of the district, and to define their duties, and fix their compensation, and to pay over to them the same out of the moneys that may be in the treasury, and draw on the treasurer for the same, and report to the Association annually all their acts and doings.

ARTICLE 10. The President and Secretary of the Conference shall, by virtue of their offices, be President and Secretary of the Association.

BY-LAWS OF THE GEORGIA DISTRICT.

I. No member shall take a seat as a member of the Conference until he has traveled under its authority, or the direction of the President, a sufficient time for a lay delegate to be constitutionally elected to take a seat with him: *Provided*, a lay delegate shall have been elected.

II. No layman shall be entitled to a seat in the Annual Conference, without proper credentials or satisfactory evidence of his election; and, where alternates are elected, the certificates shall express it.

III. The lay delegates to the Annual Conference shall be elected by the constitutional voters in the circuits and stations, in the following manner :

1. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to notify the Societies, at his first appointment after the third quarterly meeting, that at his next appointment the election of delegates to the Annual Conference will take place in each Society.

2. The Superintendent and Class Leader shall superintend the election, but, in case of the absence of the Superintendent or Class Leader, or both, the Society shall appoint some person or persons to superintend the election in each Society, by receiving the tickets of all the voters, who shall then count, seal up, and transmit a full list of all the names of the voters, and the number of votes given to each person voted for, by some one appointed by the Society to the next Quarterly Conference, to be opened in the presence of the Conference, counted over by the Chairman and Secretary, assisted by two laymen, and the individual or individuals having the highest number of votes shall be declared duly elected, and be furnished with certificates accordingly. In case of a tie, the members of the Quarterly Conference shall decide the election by a majority of votes.

IV. The Committee on Boundaries shall so lay off the district, as to give to each church Sabbath preaching, whenever practicable ; and at each Conference the ministers shall be called upon to say what amount of labor they are willing to perform, and no one shall be sent more than thirty miles from home without his consent, unless he gives his whole time to the work of the ministry.

V. The Conference shall never appoint any man to itinerate, unless he intimates his willingness to labor, either verbally or by letter.

VI. It shall be the duty of ministers and preachers to read, or cause to be read, the historical preface, the second, tenth and fourteenth articles of the Constitution of the Methodist Protestant Church, once a quarter, in all our churches.

VII. The Conference will not receive into membership, or elect to orders, any preacher or minister who dissents from any of the fundamental doctrines or ordinances of our church, as set forth in our Articles of Religion.

VIII. The Second article of the Constitution and the last clause of the first section of the detail Discipline, should be understood as to apply to the seekers of religion only, and that each church may admit to full membership persons applying on their profession of faith in Christ, and a knowledge of their sins forgiven.

IX. The President has no power, during recess of the Conference, to appoint any minister or preacher to a circuit or station, without consulting said circuit or station, or its authorities, unless the delegates from said circuit or station consent thereto, when the report of the Standing Committee may be adopted by the Conference.

X. It shall require a majority of all votes, of all the members present, to constitute an election in the Conference.

XI. The ministers, preachers and members of the Methodist Protestant Church shall take the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper conjointly.

XII. When practicable, the ordination of our ministers shall take place on Sabbath, during the session of Conference.

XIII. In case of the death of any of our ministers in the interval of Conference, it shall be the duty of the President, at the next session, to appoint some brother to preach a funeral discourse, as a tribute of respect to the deceased, at some hour during the sitting of Conference.

XIV. Each church shall elect and send up a delegate to the Quarterly Conference, or so soon thereafter as practicable, whose duty, when assembled, it shall be to apportion the preachers' salary among the churches, in proportion to their numbers and their ability to pay, and that each church appoint a Steward to collect the same. Should the peculiarity of the circuit render any other plan more efficient to carry out the object contemplated, the churches should pursue the course which to them may seem best.

RULES OF ORDER.

I. The Conference shall be opened by the President, or in his absence, the Secretary, by reading a portion of the scriptures and prayer, and adjourn by singing and prayer.



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II. The roll present, the journals when any member has been absent any portion of the minutes of the preceding day.

III. When any member is disposed to speak, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address the President.

IV. When two or more members rise at the same time, the President shall name the person entitled to proceed.

V. All questions shall be distinctly and audibly put in this form by the President: All who are in favor of the motion say aye, those of the contrary opinion, nay; and every member of the body shall vote on all questions of business relating to the Conference, unless excused.

VI. No member shall be permitted to speak more than once, until all who wish shall have spoken; and no member shall speak more than fifteen minutes at each time, without the consent of the Conference.

VII. The motion shall be reduced to writing, if required by the President or any member.

VIII. All motions made and seconded shall be stated by the President, or if in writing, shall be read, audibly, by the Secretary, before debated; and when any question is under debate, no motion shall be admitted, unless to amend, commit, adjourn, or for the previous question, *provided*, a standing committee shall be in order to report at any time.

IX. The last motion, most distant time, and largest sum, shall be first in order, but a motion to adjourn shall always be in order without debate.

X. Should any member differ from the President on a rule of order, the question shall be submitted to the Conference.

XI. No member shall withdraw during business hours, without leave from the President.

XII. The President shall, at all times, see that good order is preserved.

XIII. The proceedings of the Conference shall be recorded in a fair hand by the Secretary, and signed by the President.

XIV. The Secretary shall take charge of all the books, journals, records and proceedings of the Conference, and carry or transmit the same to the Conference at its next session.